

U.S. Application of HASEGAWA et al., atty. dkt. 290755

CLAIMS:

1. A method for fabricating a plated product with a basecoat layer, a metal plating layer, and a topcoat layer that are formed on a surface of a base, the method comprising the steps of:

forming the basecoat layer and the metal plating layer successively on the surface of the base;

removing impurities from a surface of the metal plating layer after the formation of the basecoat layer and the metal plating layer; and

forming the topcoat layer on the surface of the metal plating layer after the removal of the impurities.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the impurity removing step includes the step of disintegrating the impurities by applying an acid to the surface of the metal plating layer or immersing the surface of the metal plating later in the acid.

3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the acid used in the impurity disintegrating step is 3 to 10 weight percent of acetic acid or 2 to 6 weight percent of dilute sulfuric acid.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the impurity removing step includes the step of adsorbing the impurities by applying a protein dispersed solution to the surface of the metal plating layer or immersing the surface of the metal plating later in the solution.

5. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of forming an antioxidant film on the surface of the metal plating layer after the impurity removing step.

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6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the metal plating layer is formed by a chemical silver plating method that uses silver mirror reaction.

7. The method according to claim 1, wherein the base is formed of synthetic resin.

8. A method for fabricating a plated product with a basecoat layer, a metal plating layer, and a topcoat layer that are formed on a surface of a base, the method comprising the steps of:

forming the basecoat layer and the metal plating layer on the surface of the base;

forming an antioxidant film on a surface of the metal plating layer after the formation of the basecoat layer and the metal plating layer; and

forming the topcoat layer on the surface of the metal plating layer after the formation of the antioxidant film.

9. The method according to claim 8, wherein the antioxidant film forming step includes coating of the surface of the metal plating layer with a metal surface treatment agent for obtaining the antioxidant film.

10. A method for fabricating a plated product with a basecoat layer, a metal plating layer, and a topcoat layer that are formed on a surface of a base, the method comprising the steps of:

forming the basecoat layer and the metal plating layer on the surface of the base;

disintegrating impurities by applying an acid to a surface of the metal plating layer or immersing the surface of the metal plating layer in the acid after the formation of the

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basecoat layer and the metal plating layer;

adsorbing the impurities by applying a protein dispersed solution to the surface of the metal plating layer or immersing the surface of the metal plating layer in the solution after the disintegration of the impurities; and

forming the topcoat layer on the surface of the metal plating layer after the adsorption of the impurities.

11. The method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of forming an antioxidant film on the surface of the metal plating layer, wherein the step is performed between the impurity adsorbing step and the topcoat layer forming step.

12. A method for fabricating a plated product with a basecoat layer, a metal plating layer, and a topcoat layer that are formed on a surface of a base, the method comprising the steps of:

forming the basecoat layer on the surface of the base, wherein the basecoat layer is obtained by applying a basecoat agent to the surface of the base or immersing the surface of the base in the basecoat agent and drying the basecoat agent on the surface of the base;

forming the metal plating layer on the basecoat layer, wherein the metal plating layer is obtained by a chemical silver plating method;

removing impurities from the surface of the metal plating layer after the formation of the basecoat layer and the metal plating layer; and

forming the topcoat layer on the surface of the metal plating layer after the removal of the impurities.

13. The method according to claim 12, wherein the impurity removing step includes the step of disintegrating the impurities by applying an acid to the surface of the metal

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plating layer or immersing the surface of the metal plating layer in the acid.

14. The method according to claim 13, wherein the acid used in the impurity disintegrating step is 3 to 10 weight percent of acetic acid or 2 to 6 weight percent of dilute sulfuric acid.

15. The method according to claim 12, wherein the impurity removing step includes the step of adsorbing the impurities by applying a protein dispersed solution to the surface of the metal plating layer or immersing the surface of the metal plating later in the solution.

16. The method according to claim 12, further comprising the step of forming an antioxidant film on the surface of the metal plating layer after the impurity removing step.

17. A plated product comprising a basecoat layer, a metal plating layer, and a topcoat layer that are formed on a surface of a base, wherein the metal plating layer is formed of silver, and a value Δb^* obtained by subtracting a colorimetric value b^* of a standard wet type plated product of Chromium(VI) from the value b^* of the plated product, as measured in accordance with Lab color system, is lower than or equal to five.